

# ENEMY RUSHING UP FRESH TROOPS AND GUNS TO CONTINUE ADVANCE; FORCE FRENCH OUT OF MONTDIDIER

## TEUTON AMBASSADOR ADMITS WAR GUILT

Minister to London at  
Time of War's Start  
Makes Revelation.

GERMAN DIPLOMACY  
CAUSED CONFLICT  
Did Not Intend Having  
Incriminating Paper  
Become Public.

Stockholm, March 28.—Anglo-German negotiations concerning the Berlin-Bagdad railroad and German naval and commercial jealousy of Great Britain are touched on in further sections of the personal memorandum written by Prince Lichnowsky, German Ambassador to London at the outbreak of the war. Excerpts from the memorandum are published by the Politiken and already have brought the prince into disfavor in German officialdom because of his frank statements on German diplomacy, which he did not intend to be made public.

Prince Lichnowsky, after describing efforts to obtain a better understanding between Germany and England and the negotiations over the Anglo-German treaty, refers to the so-called Baghdad railroad treaty. This aimed in fact of a division of Asia Minor into spheres of interest, although the prince writes that this expression was carefully avoided in consideration of the Sultan of Turkey.

Sir Edward Grey, then British foreign secretary, declared repeatedly that there was no agreement between England and France aiming at division of Asia Minor. The greatest concession Sir Edward made to Prince Lichnowsky personally, it is declared, was for the continuation of the railroad line to Basra. By this treaty the whole of Mesopotamia up to Basra became a German zone of interest by which all British rights and the question of shipping on the Tigris were left untouched. The British economic territories, the prince adds, included the coasts of the Persian gulf and the Smyrna-Aden railroad, the French territory was Syria and the Russian was Armenia. Had the treaty been concluded and published, he continues, an agreement would have been reached with England that would have finally ended all doubt of the possibility of Anglo-German cooperation.

Referring to the difficult question of German naval activity, the prince says it was never judged quite correct. The creation of a mighty fleet on the other side of the North Sea and the simultaneous development of the continent's most important military power into a most naval power, he declares, had at least to be recognized by Great Britain as uncomfortable.

To maintain the necessary lead and to preserve the supremacy of the seas which Great Britain must have in order not to go down, the prince adds, she had to undertake preparations and expenses which weighed heavily on the taxpayers. The threat against German policy permitted the possibility of warlike development to appear. This possibility, the prince asserts, was obviously near during the Moroccan crisis and the Bosnian question.

The powers had become reconciled to the German fleet in its definite strength. Obviously it was not welcome to Great Britain and the prince declares, constituted one of the motives but neither the only or most important motive for England's joining hands with Russia and France.

On account of the German fleet alone, Prince Lichnowsky says, Great Britain would have drawn the sword as little on account of German trade, "which it is pretended called forth her jealousy and finally brought about war."

### APPROVE ARREST OF KARL MUCK

Boston, March 28.—The Department of Justice in Washington in a telegram today to United States Marshal John J. Mitchell approved the course of federal officials here in arresting Dr. Karl Muck, conductor of the Boston Symphony orchestra, on the ground that his presence at large was a danger to the peace and safety of the country.

Dr. Muck is in the East Cambridge jail as an enemy alien.

## MAIN ST. MERCHANT BLACKJACKED

POSTAL CLERK  
IS ACCUSED OF  
ROBBING MAILS

J. J. Quinlan, 23, a clerk, employed in the Bridgeport post office, was arrested today by Post Office Inspector D. T. Colvin, charged with robbing the United States mail. When arrested there were four letters found on his person, each one of which had contained a small sum of money. The arrest of Quinlan makes the second of the same nature within the last three weeks, the first being that of Frank Folkman.

According to a high postal official an example will be made of these two cases and the chances are punishment will be severe when they are brought before the United States District Court.

What has been termed an "epidemic of robberies" has been rampant in the local post office and a number of inspectors have been working on the cases in this district. They have gained a good line on the disappearance of mail containing money as is shown by the two arrests which have been made within the course of a few weeks.

### BILL FOR SALE OF HUN PROPERTY IN U. S. SIGNED TODAY

Washington, March 28.—President Wilson signed today the bill that paves the way for the sale of great German properties in America and allows the government to acquire title to the great German steamship piers and docks in Hoboken.

Under the new law A. Mitchell Palmer, alien enemy property custodian, does not intend to interfere with the property of mere individuals, but all the great corporate holdings which practically were adjuncts of the German foreign office and her military system, will be sold out, that the agencies of spreading kultur in America may be broken up.

Properties and investments of the German junkers including the former chancellor, Von Bethmann-Hollweg, and even the Kaiser himself will be sold to the highest bidder.

### EXPECT ALLIED ARMY TO STRIKE AT ANY MOMENT

Washington, March 28.—Late reports that the Anglo-French is stiffening before the German assault led American military observers to believe today that an Allied counterstroke might get under way at any moment.

All depends, officers said, on the forces that the Allies have been able to muster in reserve. There is every indication that both the British and the French have been using reinforcements sparingly in their efforts to stem the German advance, meanwhile conserving their man power to the day just ahead.

Although no official report has issued from the war department of the participation of American troops other than engineer units, the view here is that Americans may take part in back.

### CHANGE IN TIME TO BE MADE AT 11 P. M.

New Haven, March 28.—Citizens of New Haven were surprised today by the contents of a proclamation issued by Mayor Fitzgerald. He called upon the industrial plants to blow their whistles, the churches to ring their bells and the fire bells to sound at 11 o'clock Saturday night, this be the signal for persons to set their watches and clocks ahead to midnight. The official change in time will be 2 a. m. Sunday.

## AGED WOMEN CLING TO HANDS OF MERE BABES FLEEING BATTLE HELL

Reclaimed Somme Fields Return to Their Former Chaotic State As Fierce Fighting Progresses—Trudging Wearily Along, Their Sabots Pounding the Dust of the Roads Men Stooped With Years, Maidens and Youths and the Child With the Inevitable Rag Doll Form Picture of Indescribable Pathos.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 27.—Villages in the Somme battle field and adjoining it have been emptied of their inhabitants. Some of the places, stripped of their population once before, during the battle of the Somme in 1916, gradually had filled up again during the peaceful days of British occupation.

The shell shattered fields had once more been put to the plow and when the correspondent only recently toured the old region he found hundreds of acres of land under cultivation and affairs in many hamlets were proceeding almost as if there were no war. It seems unbelievable that these peasant little valleys and wooded elevations again are in possession of the enemy and that the cottages stand empty.

Insofar as it was possible everything that might be of use to the Germans has been removed with the refugees. In particular large numbers of cattle have been taken away by the owners who patiently drove the beasts on ahead of them along the weary roads.

While it is a sad spectacle, the people moving away with their few household possessions and their dogs and their cattle, there are few tears or hysterical outbreaks among the refugees, most of whom are of the peasant class. They know they must go and they seem to be trusting implicitly in the British, but the misery in their eyes as they turn from all they love to a world they do not know is touching.

Aged women clinging to the hands of little grandchildren, men stooped with years, youths and maidens—all fall into a picture such as only war or some other great catastrophe can produce.

The French refugees of the better class, of those who are departing from the zones of actual operations, are coming out clad in all their finery, which represents the styles of four or five years ago. They are wearing sturdy peasants with wooden shoes and clumsily constructed clothes, riding in vehicles drawn by horses or donkeys or in cart pushed by men, and some are even in wheelbarrows. On these queer transports are stacked strange assortments of personal belongings.

There is deep pathos in all this, but none struck the correspondent more forcibly than the appearance of a tiny girl who trudged in her wooden shoes along a hard dusty road, her eyes fastened anxiously on a dirty rag doll perched precariously at the top of household effects which were being rushed along by an old man.

This child was perhaps representative of all the refugees—she was clinging away with her most cherished possession, her baby doll, and was prepared to guard it at all cost; her aching feet were as nothing, so long as the doll was safe.

### REPORT PERSIANS ON WAY TO BERLIN

Moscow, Wednesday, March 26.—(By the Associated Press)—The newspaper report that a Persian delegation has left Teheran for Berlin by way of Constantinople, to arrange a permanent alliance between Persia and Germany, based on a large loan by Germany to finance Persian railroads and to equip the Persian army with German instructors.

The Persian chargé d'affaires in Petrograd, denying this report says Persia is trying merely to arrange a settlement of the damages suffered and to assure Persian participation at the ultimate peace conference in order to assure payment from the belligerents.

### SENATOR GALLINGER IS 81.

Washington, March 28.—Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire the Republican leader, received many congratulations and flowers today on his 81st birthday anniversary. He was born in Cornwall, Ont., in 1837.

Bold Attempt Made at Noon  
to Rob Dry Goods Store  
of J. S. Wooster.

SOUGHT TO RIFLE SAFE  
IN ABSENCE OF CLERKS

Wooster Pursues Assailants  
But Wound in His Head  
Overcomes Him.

A bold and desperate attempt at robbery was made at noon today by two unknown men who entered the drygoods store of J. S. Wooster, at 1075 East Main street, and asked to see some shirts. While the proprietor of the store had his back turned getting some boxes of shirts from the shelves, one of them reached over the counter and struck him on the head with a black jack.

The blow fortunately was only of a glancing nature and did not render him entirely unconscious. Seeing they did not succeed in knocking their victim out, the pair fled, and escaped.

They were pursued for a short distance by Wooster, but owing to his age, the loss of blood, and pain from the ugly wound in his head, he was compelled to give up the pursuit and immediately reported the attempt to rob his store to the police at the Second Precinct.

Apparently the robbers thought there was a large sum of money in the safe in the store and chose the noon hour when most of the help are at lunch for the desperate attempt to perpetrate the robbery.

According to the description of the barbitis furnished the police the men were about 19 or 20 years old and made no attempt to conceal their features. The police believe that it will not be many hours before the pair of desperados will be in the net which they have hung about the city to insure their capture.

The victim of the assault is nearly 60 years of age and is one of the oldest established dry goods merchants in Bridgeport. The present store conducted by J. S. Wooster is the largest he has occupied and has been open for less than a year. He is reputed to be wealthy and the attempt today was made under the assumption there was a large sum of cash in the heavy safe in the office of the store.

### ARGENTINE ON EVE OF BREAK

Buenos Aires, March 28.—Argentina is on the eve of another diplomatic crisis with Germany, more critical than any of the former ones. This is the general opinion in political circles and is based on the torpedoing of the Argentine seaman Ministro Irrendo in the Mediterranean on Jan. 26.

The Argentine ambassador in Madrid has been called home and is expected to arrive this week. It is believed that his coming is in connection with the attack on the Ministro Irrendo.

### EXPLOSION IN WORCESTER TODAY

Worcester, March 28.—Two men were slightly injured and a property damage estimated at \$10,000 was suffered here today when a mysterious and suspicious explosion wrecked the factory portion of the Shepard Mfg. Co. plant in Greendale.

The concern has been engaged in the manufacture of an important product for the government and it is the only plant of its kind in the United States.

### STANDARD OIL CO. TANKER BEACHED

New York, March 28.—The American tank steamer O. G. Jennings, 10,290 gross tons, owned by the Standard Oil Co., is beached on the British coast as a result of a collision and fire at sea, according to a brief cable information received by the Standard Oil Co. here today. The cablegram added that one member of the crew, a seaman named Shea, is missing.

## FORCE WAY BETWEEN CONNECTING LINES OF FRANCO-BRITISH ARMY

UNEXAMPLED FURY CHARACTERIZES BATTLE  
WAGING DURING NIGHT—ALLIED LINE  
REMAINS INTACT DESPITE GERMAN  
EFFORTS—GREAT LOSSES.

Striking with almost unexampled fury against the Allied front near the point where the French and British lines connect, the Germans yesterday and last night drove in a deep wedge to the west and forced the French out of Montdidier.

This town, which lies 19 miles southeast of Amiens, one of the German objectives, is 10 miles west of Roye, which the Germans took on Tuesday.

Threat against Amiens in the north seems to be well held by the British along their front north of the Somme, where they have maintained their line firmly at all points and even, as indicated by today's official report, have advanced it in places.

### "UNHEARD OF FEROCITY"

In the Noyon and Lassigny regions and along the Oise to the east the French are likewise preventing the Germans from getting an opening. The force of their drive thus was diverted to the west of the Roye region and the forward push there developed probably the fiercest fighting of the present battle.

Paris characterizes the engagements as of "unheard of ferocity." The French regiments, however, fought with their accustomed bravery and made the Germans pay dearly for every bit of ground they covered in their desperate push for an outlet, the French finally retiring in good order to the heights to the west of Montdidier. News dispatches this morning reported the line in this sector to be holding well.

### ALLIES HOLDING WELL

British Army Headquarters in France, March 2.—News received from the extreme right wing is that the Allies are holding well. (This refers to the southern sector where the French have been falling back.)

Near Beaumont Hamel the enemy attacked heavily. Severe fighting followed. This morning it appeared that the village virtually was No Man's Land with the contending lines drawn close on each side.

Hard fighting occurred at several points along the battle front during the night, in consequence of enemy attacks. The latest reports indicate that the British have kept the situation well in hand.

The German artillery this morning put down an intense bombardment along the front between Acheville and the Souchez river (south of Lens) but up to the time of the filing of this dispatch (10 a. m.) no infantry action had been reported.

The Germans made several assaults near Rossignol wood but on each occasion were driven back. Near Sully Laurette another sharp engagement occurred, and here also the British maintained themselves and obtained prisoners.

The Germans are bringing up artillery and rushing new troops from various parts of the line in preparation for the continuance of the drive.

London, March 28.—In the last 24 hours the Germans have made but one comparatively trifling gain as the result numerous massed attacks along the whole front, says Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters. For the British there may be claimed several distinct local successes, in repelling enemy blows, in wresting back ground won, by counter attacks.

Although the Germans continue to use their infantry with ruthless prodigality, the general pressure along the front is for the moment less determined. This may be attributed in part to the enemy waiting to bring up heavy artillery preparatory to another great effort, and in part to exhaustion.

Nothing can be learned of the appearance of enemy tanks on the British front, while those left by the retreating British were systematically destroyed, the correspondent reports.

The enemy continues to bring troops from far and near to replenish his reserves and along wide stretches the German front is held by a mere screen of troops.

### HAND TO HAND FIGHTING

Paris, March 28.—Blocked on the Lassigny and Noyon fronts and on the left bank of the Oise, the Germans last night threw forward important forces in the region of Montdidier, the war office announced today. Here the fighting rapidly took on extraordinary ferocity.

French regiments fought hand to hand with the enemy and inflicted heavy losses.

The text reads:

"The battle was fought with sustained violence yesterday

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